

The Chronicle

Volume 22 Issue 15

Since 1981

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mentors not paid after a semester of work

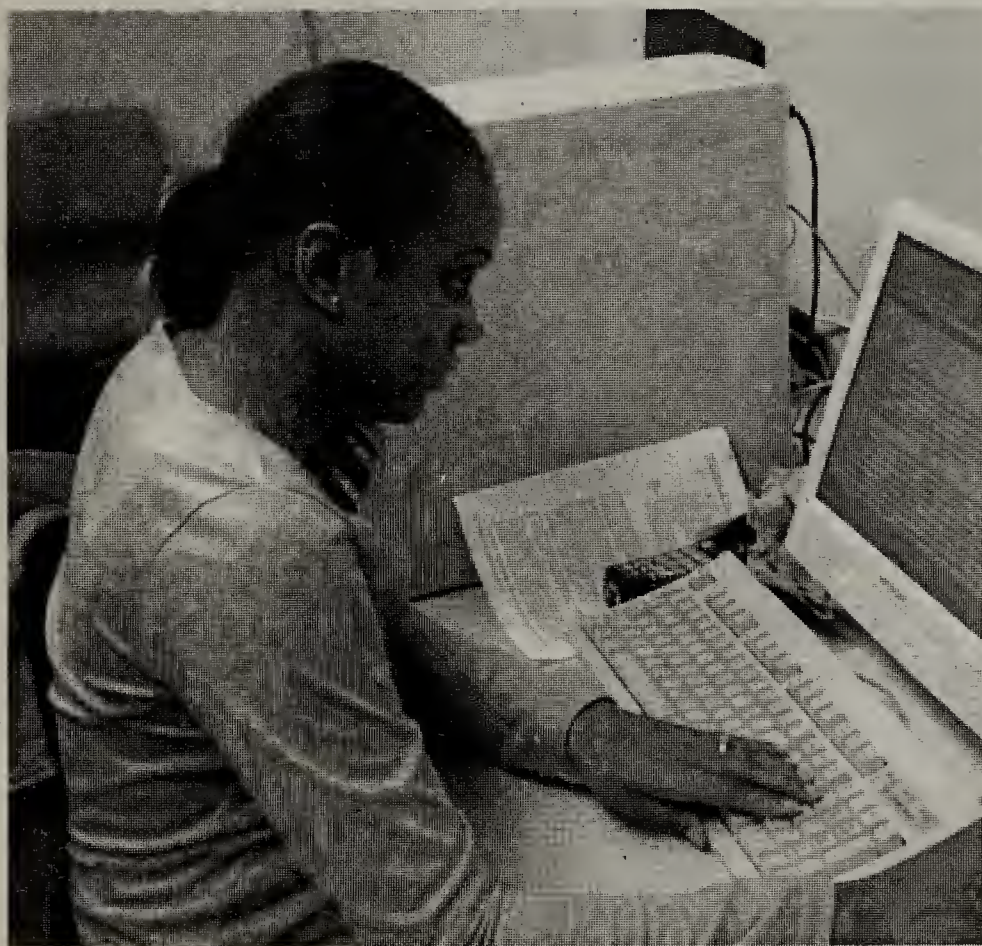


photo by Dave Thompson

Skye Holman, mentor for the 21st Century Scholar's Program, is one of 10 employees that has not been paid as part of the SUCCESS Program.

NICOLE MACKOWSKI
News Editor

The 21st Century Scholar's has a new program, but those working for the program have not been paid for their work during the current semester.

Ten mentors were hired in October to work for the program called the Scholars Utilizing Counselors, Camaraderie, Educators, and other Staff to Succeed in October as part of a state allocated grant, and because of the lack of planning in the 21st Century scholar office in Indianapolis mentors have been working for 2 months without pay, Skye Holman, a mentor for the program, said.

Dawn Beasley, a mentor for the program, said, "I am disappointed in the planning process of the people down state. We have already been awarded a grant and not seen any money, even though we signed a contract."

Kimberly Trajkovski, the coordinator The 21st Century scholar mentors program SUCCESS Connection is a mentoring program exclusively for 21st Century Scholars.

"Its primary purpose is to provide intrusive mentoring to freshman and sophomore level scholars so that they are connected to the university academically and socially," Trajkovski said.

Trajkovski said mentoring is provided to the freshman and sophomore scholars by junior and senior level 21st Century Scholars. There was a mentor contract which was writ-

ten based on the terms of the grant received from the state's 21st Century Scholars Office.

In turn for the contact the State of Indiana awarded a grant to the mentors that would provide a \$7,500 scholarship for each of the 10 mentors for the fall semester, Trajkovski said.

Holman said, the contract that was signed by the mentors gave mentors the responsibilities of attending workshops and activities of the SUCCESS program. These responsibilities included: contacting protégé 3 times a week, assisting in encouraging freshman and sophomores to participate in the program, meeting with the coordinator weekly, maintaining full time enrollment and satisfactory academic progress and maintaining the integrity of the SUCCESS network.

By fulfilling all of these obligations mentors were to receive a scholarship for \$7,500 for the fall semester payable in equivalent increments at the end of each month, Holman said.

Trajkovski said mentors have not received their funds yet because the State Office of 21st Century Scholars is still trying to clarify how the funding should be dispersed.

"Originally the monies were to be dispersed as a scholarship, the State has since revised its policy. Until the state has provided clarification, the monies are not able to be dispersed," Trajkovski said.

The money is in the account at the business office on campus, Holman said.

See Mentors Page 5

CCLD: SGA needs to prove themselves

TERRIE HENDERSON
Managing Editor

The Student Government Association will have to prove themselves effective to the Center for Career and Leadership Development, and will have to recruit new members in order to become more active on campus, or resign.

Richard Riddering, director of the Center for Career and Leadership Development said, "We conducted a very serious meeting with the Student Government Executive Board and we asked them to re-commit or resign."

Riddering said the SGA will be required to focus on rebuilding their organization, and will start a major recruitment campaign at the beginning of the Spring 2004 semester.

Riddering said he has high hopes that committed students who want to impact the school will be interested in joining the SGA.

"I won't be satisfied with the SGA until we have a committed group of students working together on the issues that matter most to students at PUC. That's what SGA is supposed to be about," Riddering said.

SGA members who are a part of the executive board receive a small monetary stipend for the work they do throughout the semester. The members will receive their stipends for the Fall 2003 semester, but must show improvement in order to receive the stipends for the Spring 2004 semester.

Gloria Roldan-Schieb, associate director for student life activities said, "We have asked them to prove to us they are deserving of the stipends. They have to show some sort of evidence. How they are going to do that, we are open to ideas."

"We want SGA to continue and in order for an organization to continue, it needs committed members," she said.

But SGA President Ricardo Garcia said the association has done all it could have done this semester and has been effective.

Garcia said he does not think it is fair for CCLD to ask the SGA for proof of their effectiveness on campus.

"I do not feel CCLD could give justice to the work that was done by the current executive board by comparing us to prior executive boards," Garcia said.

Garcia said there are no standards for them to be compared to because the current SGA is running their organization differently than past members.

"I question CCLD's authority to question our stipends, because if we were not effective, why would we still be in office?" Garcia said.

Prior SGA members held meetings every week. Garcia said these meetings were usually "whining sessions" where no real issues were addressed.

He said when there are "pressing issues" the executive board members should have meetings to discuss them, but if the issues or concerns are not crucial, then they can be handled through e-mail and telephone calls.

Not having weekly meetings allows more freedom for the executive board and the students, Garcia said.

Garcia said it should be up to the student body, not CCLD, to determine if they are being effective or not.

"If students feel the executive board is not fulfilling its duties, it's up to the students to step up and say so and their opinions would be justification enough that the SGA is fulfilling its duties as a whole," Garcia said.

But other members of the SGA executive board realize there may be some things the organization must improve upon.

Jennifer Dinell, vice president of the student programming board, said, "I do think that an improvement needs to be made, having senators and having meetings, and making sure the students are represented."

Dinell said the SGA needs senators to have more of an impact on the school and the decision-making.

She said with CCLD's help, the association

can improve in areas of leadership, membership and promotions.

"I believe that (the executive board) are doing all that they can to get stuff done, but due to a lack of leadership, they don't know what direction to go right now," Dinell said.

Anthony R. Nichols, vice president of finance, said that proving to CCLD they are being effective is not unfair and is part of the job.

"This is actual work, and you have to earn your keep," Nichols said.

Nichols said that with the building of the dorms and the parking garage, more students will be attracted to campus and will become involved in student organizations, like the SGA.

"Next thing you know, our president will be felt. We will have a bigger say in what's going on," Nichols said. "We just hit a down period, but what we need to do is get more senators and get back together."

Dinell said that because of Garcia's outside priorities, he has not followed through with some things he intended to do before the semester started.

"He has good intentions, but I think he had difficulty following through with his obligations," Dinell said.

Roldan-Schieb said, "for students interested in being part of change, this is your time." Roldan-Schieb said SGA members sit on committees that effect major decisions on campus, because the student input is important to the university.

"If committees are going on without student representation, there is a problem," Roldan-Schieb said.

Students interested in contacting the SGA should email the club at sga_president0304@yahoo.com or should call (219) 989-2394. Garcia said that students with concerns should call or email the SGA or can slide notes under the door of the office.

Garcia said, "we are as accessible as anyone else on campus."

Fundraising push holds 'challenge' for faculty, staff

SARAH LISON
Editor in Chief

The office of advancement has set a goal for 100 percent of faculty and staff to participate each year in a four-part fundraising campaign through 2007.

Fred DeHaan, assistant vice chancellor for advancement, said if prospective external donors see a high participation level among faculty and staff, the donors would have a compelling reason to participate in the "Plan for Success" campaign.

Chancellor Howard Cohen and DeHaan discussed the campaign at the town hall meeting Dec. 2.

This fundraising campaign supports the university's strategic plan, but ends two years after the university completes the strategic plan, Cohen said.

The fundraising campaign has been a "quiet campaign" for the last year, and the university has secured pledges from businesses and individuals that have a history of donating to Purdue University Calumet.

The chancellor asked for suggestions and feedback from faculty and staff to improve the campaign before its kickoff in January.

"We obviously haven't thought of everything — we're not working as a well-oiled machine just yet," Cohen said. "Your advice would be really helpful."

After the meeting, university employees had mixed reactions to the goal of 100 percent participation.

Beth Pellicciotti, assistant vice chancellor for academic quality programs, said the goal positively challenges faculty and staff.

"Anytime you contribute to an organization, you ask yourself, 'Do I really believe in

See Fundraising Page 5

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Whether to cancel classes, close campus due to extreme winter weather...

Occasionally, in the interest of personal safety it is necessary to suspend classes and/or close the campus due to adverse weather conditions or other sudden, unusual or unexpected circumstances.

Any decision to do so will be made by the Chancellor, in consultation with the Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services.

The decision to interrupt normal campus operations means either of the following conditions is in effect:

CLASSES ARE CANCELED

(This means that all classes scheduled to meet that particular day at on- and off-campus sites are canceled, but university offices, departments and services remain open.)

or

THE UNIVERSITY IS CLOSED

(This means that NO on- and off-campus functions, services, programs and activities will take place that day. The campus will be considered closed to all people except those assisting in emergency operations.)

EITHER of the above announcements RE: the status of operations at Purdue Calumet will be made that day for ASAP broadcast to local Northwest Indiana radio/television stations and participating radio/TV stations of the Chicago Emergency Closing Center system as indicated below. It is the intent of the administration to communicate any such announcement in the following timely manner:

1 PRIOR TO THE START OF THE CAMPUS DAY...

to the news media by 6 a.m.

PRIOR TO THE START OF EVENING CLASSES...

to the news media by 3 p.m.

2 The announcement will be communicated for broadcast on these radio stations...

- * Hammond station WJOB (1230-am)
- * Valparaiso station WZVN (107.1-fm)
- * Valparaiso station WXRJ (103.9-fm)
- * Gary station WLTH (1370-am)
- * Valparaiso station WAKE (1500-am/105.5-fm)
- * Michigan City station WIMS (1420-am)
- * Michigan City station WEFM (95.9-fm)
- * LaPorte station WLOI (1540-am)
- * Chicago stations: WGN (720-am), WBBM (780-am)

and these local television stations...

- * Chicago-based CBS-TV/Channel 2
- * Chicago-based NBC-TV/Channel 5
- * Chicago-based WGN-TV/Channel 9 (Morning News)
- * Chicago-based Fox-TV/Channel 32
- * Chicago-based CLTV News
- * NW Indiana-based PBS WYIN-TV/Channel 56

3 Additionally, the announcement will be communicated via the automated voice attendant of these campus phone lines: 219/989-2993; 219/989-2400; or 800/HI-PURDUE, ext. 2993 or 2400.

4 Emergency closing information relating to schools and businesses throughout the Chicagoland area also can be obtained by phoning 1-312/222-SNOW from a touch-tone phone.

5 A message will be carried on the home page of the Purdue Calumet Web site at:

www.calumet.purdue.edu

6 If you are on campus when a decision is made to suspend classes or close the campus, it will be announced:

- * via the campus' emergency notification system, a voice-activated speaker system that can be heard inside and within reasonable range outside of each campus building,
- * on the 173rd Street exterior electronic message board,
- * on electronic message boards inside buildings, and,
- * via announcements placed on building doors (when deemed appropriate).

If no such announcement is made per above, assume normal campus operations remain in effect.

* * * * *

Resumption of campus operations

When a decision is made to resume campus operations, it will be communicated via:

- * the automated voice attendant of these campus phone numbers: 219/989-2993 or 219/989-2400
- * Purdue Calumet's Web site: www.calumet.purdue.edu

PLEASE NOTE: Typically, radio and TV stations do not announce resumption of operations, so refer to the Purdue Calumet Web site for campus status updates

What's goin' on?

A look around campus

Amateur photographers wanted to take pictures

The photo clubs seeks students with an interest in photography to become new members. No experience is necessary. Members do not need to own a camera.

For more information, e-mail Tiffany Sanchez at sanchezt1@calumet.purdue.edu.

Faculty senate seeks student input on academic calendar

The University Faculty Senate will be reviewing the calendar this year and is considering adding a fall break. The senate currently seeks input on the topic from students of all majors.

Interested students should contact Susan Conners, associate professor of information systems and computer programming, at (219) 989-2918.

Students invited to discuss literacy with chancellor

The Center for Career and Leadership Development is looking for students who are interested in participating in the Chancellor's Reading Circle on Thursday, Jan. 29 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Faculty member Linda Wold will lead a discussion on the book "Other People's Words: The Cycle of Low Literacy" by Victoria Purcell-Gates.

Interested students should call The Center for Career and Leadership Development at (219) 989-2369 or visit SFLC-349 to register. Books are provided.

H.I.P. H.O.P. free style competition in Alumni Hall

Health Informational Programs Helping Our People presents a free style competition, urban poet contest and open mic on Nov. 26, 2003 in Alumni Hall at 6 p.m. Admission is free.

For more information call (219) 397-7465.

Get published: Skylark now accepting submissions

Purdue University Calumet Literary Magazine is now accepting poetry and short stories for the Spring 2004 edition. Send submissions to Karen A. Tomaszewski at tomaszewskik1@calumet.purdue.edu.

Calling ALL Communication and Marketing Students!

The PUC Chapter of the Association for Women in Communication is looking for students interested in joining the club. Founded in 1909, this organization supports the advancement of women across all communication disciplines. For more information contact Krystal at kl_dixon08@yahoo.com

Beat the holiday blues.

Holidays are a difficult time for many people. If you are someone that experiences distress during the holiday season, consider visiting PUC's Counseling Center to help you beat the holiday blues. Contact the Counseling Center at 989-2366 or stop by Gyte 5.

Student Government Association seeks senators

The SGA seeks committed students to help represent the student body. Now is the time to be involved in change. Interested students should call (219) 989-2394, or can email Ricardo Garcia at sga_president0304@yahoo.com.

The SGA also wants to hear from the student body about what issues are important to them. Students who have concerns they would like to have addressed should also contact the organization.

Submitting Briefs

Anyone interested in publicizing events, clubs, organizations or departments in "What's Goin' On?" must submit briefs the Monday before publication. The Chronicle is published on Mondays. The Chronicle does not guarantee placement of briefs submitted.

Please limit briefs to four sentences and include the first and last name of the contact person.

Briefs may be submitted via e-mail at: chronicle@calumet.purdue.edu or campus cc:mail - chronicle or to the News Department located in the Student Faculty Library Center, Room 344-H.

The Chronicle

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Main lab plans paper charge

KENDRA JAPCHINSKI
Staff Writer

Students will be charged for paper in all of Purdue University Calumet's computer labs next year due to budget cutbacks and waste, according to university officials.

Elizabeth Osika, director of user support services, said the main lab is spending \$33,000 per year, which is between 80 and 90 percent of the lab's entire budget, on supplies such as paper, toner and staples. She said budget cuts have left no money for the lab to fall back on when new equipment is needed.

"Students don't think about the cost of these things because they are not required to," Osika said.

Osika said that since the main lab has installed its monitoring software, it appears that 10 percent, which is equivalent to over 900 students, will be affected by this new charge.

"People who aren't being responsible will be impacted; people who are being responsible won't be impacted," Osika said. "We want to make sure we aren't impacting all students, we want this to be a fair process."

Linda Baer, senior director of business services and comptroller, said most people don't realize that the lab fees they pay don't go directly to the computer lab; they go to their classes.

She's right. Most students don't know where their fees are going. Trisha Johnson, a junior majoring in international studies said, "Tuition just went up, these fees should have been figured into the increase."

Lindsay Poppa, a sophomore majoring in business management

said, "I think it's wrong that we are going to start getting charged for paper. We already pay a lot of money to go here."

Baer said that charging students for paper is better than increasing tuition because if only 10 percent of students are going to use that much paper, it is unfair to charge everyone. She said that the students who are using more than the allotted paper are going to have to afford it because doing computer work is a necessary part of their education.

James Rogers, Powers Lab coordinator, said that students are printing close to 115,000 sheets of paper per week in the main lab, of which 10,000 sheets are being thrown away.

He said that right now the main lab is tracking how many sheets of paper students are printing to get an average. Each student was given a \$25 allotment at the beginning of the semester, which is equivalent to 250 sheets of paper. Every time a student prints something, a counter pops up on the screen and tells the student how much paper is being used and what the student's balance is.

The lab is not charging students yet. Rogers said once testing is done, students are most likely going to be given an allotment of paper at the beginning of the semester which will probably be between 250 and 300 sheets. Every time a student prints, in any school lab, the allotment decreases and once it is gone, students are going to be notified and will be able to buy more paper in \$5 increments from student accounts in the PER building. Rogers said so far it looks like students will be charged 10 cents for each sheet of

paper. These plans are still in the making, so figures might still change.

Rogers encourages students to print on both sides of the paper, because students are charged per sheet, not per side.

He said he acknowledges the fact that some classes require more than other's. He said that there will be no exceptions for these classes. Every student will get the same amount of paper.

Rogers said he hopes that students will realize that computers can be used for more than just typing and printing. Main lab employees will be showing students how to put their papers onto CDs to turn into professors. He has not yet talked to professors to see which of them might accept these papers.

"First of all it will save the trees, second of all it will get the students to use CD burners and the other technology that's available to them," Rogers said.

Rogers also said a color printer will be added to the current mix of black ink printers in the main lab to give students options. He said the lab is going to be able to provide students with more technology since 80 to 90 percent of their budget will no longer be going to printers.

School officials are still unsure of how much this proposed plan will save. Rogers said he thinks the main lab will save at least \$1,000 a month. He said that due to inconsistent figures, the school doesn't know how much the students who are going over their limit are going over by. He said they will know more details and have a better idea of the exact amount of savings in the spring.

Evaluations provide feedback for teachers

AUDEL OCEGUERA JR.
Staff Writer

Student evaluations have become somewhat of a ritual and help many PUC students anticipate the approaching end to a semester, but the results of these evaluations are generally only seen by the individual instructors.

Dennis Korchek, dean of the School of Technology, said the purpose of the system was to provide a way for the faculty and individual instructors to improve their teaching methods. Instructors are not required to submit the results to the department heads, but these results are frequently used when instructors are applying for promotions.

Chen Q. Zhou, professor of mechanical engineering, said, "It's up to the instructor to submit [the results] or not. In our department, we have an annual evaluation committee including three professors and the department head."

Zhou said the annual evaluations include teaching, research, and service. The student evaluation forms are part of the teaching evaluation process.

Barbara Synos, assistant to the vice chancellor for academic affairs, said, "[The student evaluation forms] are a measure, but not the only measure of teacher effectiveness."

Korchek said the forms are turned in to the vice chancellor and are then scored in West Lafayette. The results are then sent confidentially to the individual instructors.

Korchek said the reasons for anonymity of the evaluation sheets is to allow students to be more comfortable when filling out the forms and so an instructor cannot link the results to a particular student. This would hopefully allow students to be as honest as possible.

Michael A. Gealt, dean of the School of Engineering, Mathematics and Science, said through the use of the student evaluation forms faculty members are given an idea of where improvements need to be made within their particular classes. He added hopefully the instructors share the results with the department heads.

Ashley Babbitt, a freshman majoring in nursing, said it did not

surprise her to find out that the individual instructors saw the evaluation results, but said she also assumed that the department heads would also see the results. She said she filled out her evaluation forms as truthfully as she could.

Carrie Giltmeyer, a junior majoring in early childhood development, said, "[Student evaluations] are just so routine."

Giltmeyer added she believed student evaluations were really just a reflection of how much a student liked or disliked a certain instructor.

"If you like the teacher, you're going to give that teacher a good score," Giltmeyer said.

Joshua York, a junior majoring in computer programming, said, "[Student evaluations] are seriously just a joke anyway."

York said he had just finished filling out an evaluation form in one of his classes and added that he believed students do not take them too seriously. York pointed out that as the class was filling out the cafeteria forms, one student jokingly whispered, "What'd you get for number two?"

"They're only as reliable as students fill them out," Synos said.

A task force is being created in order to look into possibly changing the current student evaluation forms, Synos said. Although the task force has yet to be organized, it is likely that a dean will head it.

Synos said the task force will be looking at different ways to evaluate teacher effectiveness, compare the different methods, make a determination, create a proposal, and implement another method if they find it to be better.

Gealt said one method that will be considered is Pices, which is more of a catalog questionnaire that is being used in West Lafayette. It enables more questions to be added and addresses more information than only the teacher preparation process.

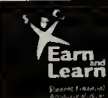
Gealt said a few faculty members develop their own questionnaires because there is no requirement that says they have to use the cafeteria forms. Developing their own forms allows them to focus on specific aspects, which the individual instructor feels is most important.



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SGA needs to cooperate

What is Student Government Association President Ricardo Garcia thinking? How can you be effective if you do not hold meetings for students to voice their opinions and address their concerns?

If the office is empty, students will walk away. Students who want to be heard and are passionate about things they feel are unjust, will not be satisfied to slip a note under the SGA's door or send an email, as Garcia has suggested.

If no one is in the office to offer support and listen to the students who seek them out, expecting a voice amongst the major decision-makers on this campus, the SGA has failed and is not effective.

The Center for Career and Leadership Development is doing the right thing by asking them to recruit and prove their doing some good next semester. CCLD's requests are not overbearing; they understand that with a lack of members, a club cannot succeed. CCLD understands the importance of student representation on campus and understands what needs to change within the current organization to see that happen.

That is why they are pushing for a major member-recruiting plan to become effective. Anthony Nichols, vice president of finance, and Jennifer Dinell, vice president of programming, seem to understand not only the mission and purpose of the SGA, but the correct way to go about running the office.

Nichols said that SGA is a job, and as with any job, members need to earn their keep. Dinell was on the same page. But Garcia seems to be in another book than the other executive board members completely.

The bare minimum the SGA needs to do is have office hours, represent the student body on committees, and make themselves available to the students.

If the students don't know how to get the SGA office, or what number or call, or what email address to send concerns to, and that is the way the current president wants to run the organization, he needs to, at bare minimum, put signs up all over campus with his contact information.

In the August 25th edition of the Chronicle, Garcia said he was planning to break the campus into districts by buildings and assign senators to those buildings. That did not happen. The issues the Chronicle listed in that editorial, such as making bookstore credit available at Suburban Textbooks, finding out if students want a freshman experience course and making sure the usage fees for students don't sky-rocket with the addition of the parking garage, have not been addressed. Neither have any other "pressing issues" as Garcia call them, been addressed this semester.

The SGA has a semester left to prove themselves effective. After that, if they have not began to implement change or began to prove themselves to be an organization that follows through with their goals, the SGA should be abolished and another organization that is better structured to serve the student body needs to be established.

CCLD is trying to give support to an organization that is crumbling from the inside. Garcia needs to forget about his political agenda and listen to reason. CCLD is trying to help him help the students.

It's up to him to accept their help, and if not, it's up to the other executive board members to impeach him.

The Chronicle Editorial Policy

The views expressed in the commentaries and Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Chronicle* or Purdue University Calumet. *The Chronicle* is not an official publication of Purdue University Calumet.

The Chronicle welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the author's name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification. The more concise the letter, the better the chances of publication.

All materials submitted to *The Chronicle* become the property of *The Chronicle*. *The Chronicle* reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Copy deadline is noon the Monday before publication.



Saving charity, one person at a time



JASON RUDY
Staff Writer

As the shopping season comes to full throttle, we all become accustomed to that little noise. You heard it on your way in to buy your \$29.95 DVD player, and it rings louder on your way out to the next great deal. The tiny bell of the Salvation Army is at times drowned out by the rustling of gift receipts and customized cell phone tones, but one thing is clear; that little bells speaks volumes.

Christmas is the time when most charities speak up and ask for help. Whether you celebrate the holidays of winter or not, charity is the human duty that is the easiest to overlook. There are plenty of excuses. "You don't get anything out of it, do you? And volunteer your services? You have a job, five classes, a..." With the semester at its end, I found this to be an appropriate time to try to spark an interest in giving the wonderful gift of charity.

The greatest part about charity is its freedom. In a world where the war on terror looms large and unemployment swells, we have the freedom to help each other out. It's completely up to you. No one is going to tell you to stop giving, and it's amazing how contagious charity is. It's easy to forget that someone else will always have it worse than you, so tighten your belt and lend a helping hand. It's a great feeling to know that when you fall down, that a helping hand will be there for you.

There are so many different things you can do. There are food drives, but don't give them your rusty can of lima beans or your outdated can of Spam. Buy some food that you would eat and share your wonderful plate with the world. Clothing drives are all the rage nowadays. Go through your closets and donate that shirt of yours that's "so last year." Sponsor a child from a needy family and buy the kid a toy. Think of the smile they'll have. If you don't have the luxury to give away money, donate a pint of blood to the Red Cross. Give hope. It's your choice. It's your freedom.

The most valuable gift of all is your time. Visit with your grandparents, correspond with a forgotten friend, say hello to that neighbor who lives alone. It's pretty easy to find a place looking for volunteers. Shovel a driveway or help someone carry something heavy. You don't have to change the world in one day, just spread the message of hope. Do what you can, and start small. You can't buy what charity gives back to you, so treasure it.

The next time you hear that little bell; throw a buck in the bucket. It's your choice.

Write the editorial staff at:
chronicle@calumet.purdue.edu
Please limit your letter to 400 words
to ensure it will be printed in its entirety.

The People Speak

Question of the week: Do you feel that PUC should have a fall break? If so when?



Mark Sharp

Web Communications Specialist,
University Relations

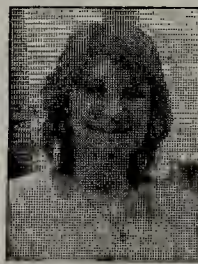
"I had a fall break around Halloween when I attended Ball State. I feel a good time would be around Halloween, for PUC's fall break."



Chad Meseberg

Computer Graphics Technology,
sophomore

"I don't think that they should have a fall break because the schedule is not really that tough. It's not like you go all day every-day."



Janet Navarro

Advisor for English &
Philosophy, Forgone Languages
and Literatures

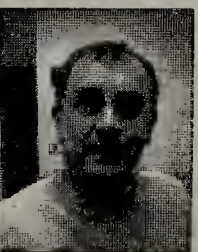
"Yes, I feel that we should have a fall break around Thanksgiving."



Rade Mandic

Medical engineering, freshman

"No, because then the semester would be longer."



Neil Nemeth

Associate Professor,
Communication & Creative Arts

"I think that if the decision is made to have one, the most logical time to have it is Thanksgiving week."



Paul Frohnapple

Biology, graduate student
"I think we should have a couple days extra before or after Thanksgiving"

Fundraising

continued from Page 1

what we're doing?" Pellicciotti said.

"It's like when you give back to your community," she said. "We all live in this community. It goes above employment."

Catherine Farley, clerical assistant to the assistant vice chancellor for business and facilities, said the university has asked faculty and staff for donations in the past. Farley said last year, clerical, administrative and faculty governance groups organized a winter festival to raise funds.

However, Farley said she serves on the Clerical Staff Advisory Committee and feedback from committee members indicates the 100 percent participation goal is not realistic.

"They just don't have the money," Farley said. "They don't make enough to support anything."

DeHaan said Purdue President Martin Jischke has offered a matching plan for donations from faculty and staff as a challenge.

During the month of January 2004, faculty and staff who commit to donations over the next three years can apply to have Jischke match their donations. Each year, the donation and matching funds would amount to \$1,000 or more. The first 1,000 faculty members who commit to the program will be eligible.

DeHaan said that although he believes this is an attractive program, the office of advance-

ment has no expectation of the size of an average gift. He said the priority is to be able to say faculty and staff have participated 100 percent of the time. DeHaan said donors could arrange for their gifts to be deducted from their paychecks, and can specify where their gifts would be distributed.

The total fundraising campaign, "Plan for Success" includes four goals.

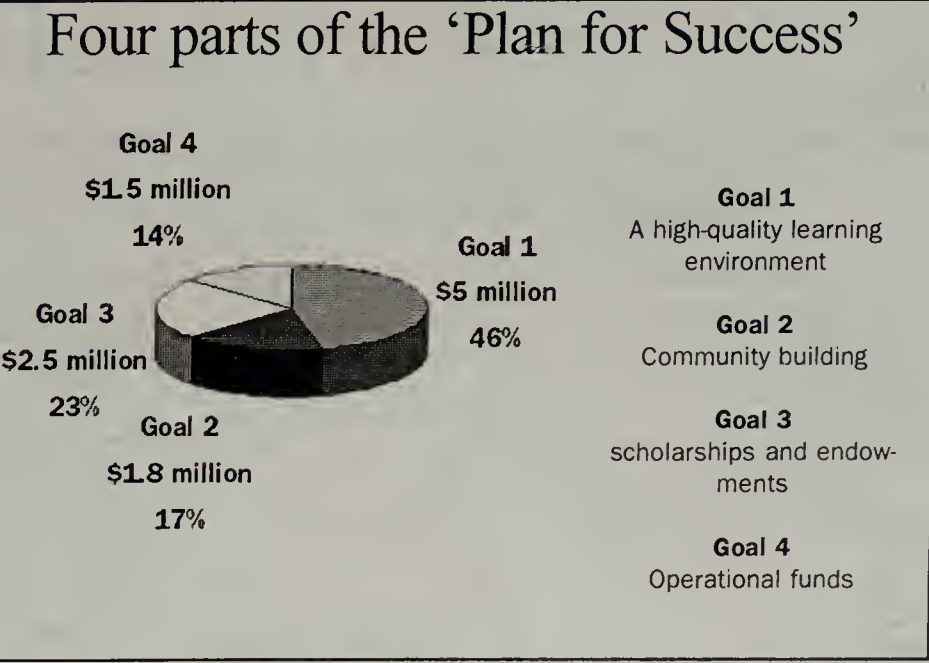
Development of a "high-quality learning environment" represents the first goal. The first goal includes raising \$5 million for the construction of a 384-bed student housing complex in Hammond and a learning center in Merrillville.

The second goal involves raising \$1.8 million for community building and the development of the Indiana Water Resource Institute.

The third goal focuses on raising \$2.5 million for scholarships and endowments.

Raising \$1.5 million for operational funds represents the fourth goal.

Pellicciotti said a focus on students makes the "Plan for Success" a quality campaign. Pellicciotti said the majority of funding to be raised supports student-focused goals such as student housing, the learning center, laboratory renovations and student scholarships.



The majority of donations raised during a \$10.8 million fundraising campaign will be used to support student-focused initiatives. A total of \$7.5 million would be used to support goals one and three of the campaign. These goals include development of a 'high-quality learning environment' and an increase in scholarships and endowments.

Fall break may be coming to campus

NICOLE MACKOWSKI
News Editor

Implementation of a fall break has been discussed by the PUC Senate on many occasions in the past while reviewing the academic calendar, Sue Conners, associate professor of information systems and computers, said.

"We review the academic calendar and make the appropriate changes every few years and we are currently in that review cycle," Conners said.

Conners said that although no decision has been made, The West Lafayette campus has a fall break and the PUC campus is considering adding one as well.

Conners said PUC has never had a fall break before because the Senate did not vote to include it in the past.

In recent years, Conners said, the PUC academic calendar has been made to closer resemble the West Lafayette calendar, and now PUC is considering an addition of a fall break that may be similar to the West Lafayette fall break, Conners said.

Conners said, there are multiple ways a fall break could be implemented into the PUC academic calendar but the most frequent discussion is to take 2 to 3 days off in the month of October.

The Senate will vote on the calendar during the Spring 2004 semester. The exact meeting in which the voting will take place has not been determined yet as the committee is still gathering input, Conners said.

Conners said all changes made to the calendar will be voted on at the same time.

"Being in sync with the West Lafayette calendar helps families with students at both campuses. It allows for easier collaboration among the faculty from the two campuses and since all our data must be transmitted to the West Lafayette campus, being closer to those deadlines facilitates the process," Conners said.

Conners said the Senate can still vote to have a fall break even if it is not in sync with the West Lafayette calendar.

If the fall break is added, the semester will not be longer or start earlier, she said.

Lynda Willer, professor of communication, said, "As faculty we can all be flexible with the material that we are covering. Giving students a fall break allows them to sit back and reflect

on all the information that they have been given in the classroom."

Lisa Cowper, sociology major, said she would enjoy a fall break as a time to go home and visit her family.

"I would also take the chance to relax and to possibly work ahead in my classes so that I don't become so overwhelmed later on in the semester," Cowper said.

Conners said, "Any and all changes made to the calendar will be voted on at the same time. We are still looking at the calendar so other decisions have not been made."

Clevonne Jeka, returning alumna, also said that she believes that a fall break would be beneficial. She said since PUC is such a big extension of the West Lafayette campus and since it is also a campus where many students commute each day to get to campus the University needs to "follow the state academic schedule at the elementary and secondary levels to best accommodate the needs of students with children."

Willer said that because PUC is different than Lafayette, "I don't know if a fall break would really be used as a break or if students would just use it to work more at their jobs. The University needs to meet the needs of our students, which may mean having Columbus Day or Veterans Day off instead of a long weekend."

Nicole Heyl, a senior majoring in social studies, said, "It would be beneficial to have a break between August and Thanksgiving. Students start to burn out and start dropping out of classes because of the work load, and trying to find time to balance school, work and family life."

Conners said, the committee would report the results of the input to the Senate along with committee recommendations before the Senate votes on the new calendar. The faculty Senate is comprised of representatives from every academic department and also of student representatives.

Conners said, the Senate is currently in the process of collecting email responses from the faculty and staff on whether they wish to have a fall break before making a decision.

Students who are interested in expression their opinion whether in favor of a having a fall break or not should contact Sue Conners at conners@calumet.purdue.edu.

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Mentors

continued from Page 1

"It is not that PUC does not want to pay us," Beasley said, "This whole situation has to do with the scholarship allocation and it is a technical situation dealing with the way the money can be awarded to the mentors."

Many mentors did not take other jobs this semester, because of the money that they were promised when they signed the contract and also due to the fact that they were working 20 hours a week as mentors and did not have time to have another job between that obligation and classes, Holman said.

"If I would have known that this is how things were going to be taken care of I would have looked for another job," Holman said.

Trajkovski said the new contract that the

state came up with was their first attempt at creating a solution, however, the issues were not properly resolved.

The new policy was created to answer the questions within the program, however it did not answer the original question regarding how money is to now be dispersed, Trajkovski said.

"I have been in contact with the state and as of today, they are still meeting to try to clarify some of the concerns that have arisen as a result of the revised policy," Trajkovski said.

The state has written a new policy, which includes new guidelines for the payment of mentors for the spring semester. Due to the need to reevaluate the contract with the mentors we have left the option open to mentors on whether they would like to come back to work for the program next semester, Trajkovski said.

The Chronicle would like to wish everyone a safe and merry holiday season!



Concert Junkie: A Perfect Circle



JORDAN
HESTERMANN
Entertainment
Editor

A Perfect Circle is playing in South Bend tonight and a certain concert junkie will be in the audience, enjoying the live "poetry" singing from Maynard James Keenan (vocalist and lyricist).

For those unfamiliar, Maynard is the front man for another "small" band that goes by the name Tool. After some record label issues, Maynard decided to take a break from Tool. He and one of Tool's guitar techs (who also worked with The Smashing Pumpkins and Nine Inch Nails), Billy Howerdel, started A Perfect Circle. Billy is the composer and one of the guitarists. A Perfect Circle was just supposed to be a side project, but was so highly accepted by fans that they have become a band in their own right. Their first album entered the Billboard charts at number four, the highest a new band has ever done.

It is worth pondering whether these fans are mostly composed of Tool fans or if A Perfect Circle has gained a different population of fans. A Perfect Circle's music does not sound like Tool, so Tool fans wouldn't follow

them because of that. A Perfect Circle has a softer, more relaxed feel within its hard rock core than Tool does. However, the essence, the "soul" is quite similar to that of Tool. The passion, the emotion that draws you into the songs is the same. It must be Maynard.

Maynard James Keenan is not just a vocalist in a couple of alternative (for lack of a better classification) bands. Maynard is



Photo courtesy of
www.cameraeye.fika.org/whatsbeyond.html

Maynard James Keenan performing poetry with Tool during their Lateralus tour.

a poet that not only knows how to adapt his poetry to music, but he knows how to perform with it. When listening to a Tool song, the human element of the singer comes through the song. Not all bands can do that, of course, they don't have Maynard.

Many of the lyrics Maynard writes are dark. He covers a broad range of topics in his songs, many are not appropriate for innocent ears. However, looking past what he is writing about and seeing how he is writing and performing his works will allow the reader to see a true poet. True poets are rare and should be appreciated.

Words like, "A groan, of tedium escapes me, startling the fearful. Is this a test? It has to be, otherwise I can't go on. Draining patience, drain vitality. This paranoid, paralyzed vampire act's a little old," from "The Patient" on Tool's "Lateralus" album or "Run, desire, run this sexual being, run him like a blade to and through the heart, no conscience, one motive...to cater to the hollow," from "The Hollow" on A Perfect Circle's "Mer de Noms" album, are evidence of the brilliance Maynard is lucky to be gifted with. It is also probably the biggest reason why fans flock to Tool and A Perfect Circle shows. It will be a great thing to see.

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Mayer lifts Chicago with Heavier Things



Photo by Kendra Japchinski

John Mayer performs a solo during "Come Back to Bed", a song off his new album, *Heavier Things*, November 28th at the Allstate Arena in Chicago.

KENDRA JAPCHINSKI
Staff Writer

John Mayer may have gained recognition and built a solid fan base with his pop music singles such as "No Such Thing," the Grammy-winning "Your Body is a Wonderland" and "Why Georgia," but there is no denying that this pop star was born to play the blues. After watching him perform a near flawless cover of Stevie Ray Vaughan's "Empty Arms" over Thanksgiving weekend at the Allstate Arena, it's no surprise Mayer has been performing lately with blues greats such as Chicago's own Buddy Guy and Stevie Ray Vaughan's former band, Double Trouble.

After only three months since his last visit to Chicago with the Counting Crows, 26-year-old Mayer is touring once again in support of his new platinum album *Heavier Things*, an album in which he strayed from the initial trendy, acoustic pop genre of his 2001 triple-platinum album *Room for Squares* and focused more on what he said he has always wanted to do, play the blues.

Upon taking the stage wearing jeans, sneakers, a sports coat and a white shirt and tie, Mayer remarked, "Chicago, I like it that we see each other so often."

Mayer then delivered a solid two-hour set consisting of 16 songs, some from his previous album, but mostly new material. Mayer recently expanded his usual four member entourage with a keyboardist and a two-piece brass section. This provided jazzy harmonic support while he rotated between at least six guitars ranging from acoustic to electric.

Although some people may consider him a pop superstar, it doesn't seem that Mayer has really realized his fame yet. This is his first tour playing at arenas, which was quite apparent in his stage presence

and his chattiness.

"I think I may be coming down with something," Mayer said. "I'm way too relaxed to be playing in front of this many people."

Mayer seemed to know exactly how to reach the large audience, which was primarily female, but spanned in age from teenagers to people in their forties. He talked about topics ranging from Thanksgiving and Turkey to the ever-popular topics of heartbreak and love.

His talent was extremely evident in all of his songs, but prevailed especially in "Come Back to Bed," a driving blues tune off his new album. During this song he did something that couldn't have been done on the album. He pulled sustained, wailing riffs from his electric guitar for at least five minutes, ensuring that all who were there were made aware of his passion. Notorious for his grimacing and wild facial expressions while soloing, Mayer performed as if he was the only one in the arena.

The concert ended perfectly with, "St. Patrick's Day," his acoustic holiday tune from *Room for Squares*; live with sleigh bells played by his loyal road-journalist, Scotty Crowe. It seemed to fit well with Thanksgiving weekend, cold weather and snow flurries.

Mayer's songwriting ranges from topics of love, life and his own fears. His music may not be for everyone, but it definitely provides a welcome, relaxing escape from most overplayed pop artists such as Christina Aguilera or Justin Timberlake.

The Thorns, sounding similar to the Eagles with the harmonies of Pete Dinklage, Matthew Sweet and Shawn Mullins, shared the bill as opening act for Mayer courtesy of Sony/A&R Records. They performed for about 45 minutes during which they played their hit single, "Blue."

Listen before shopping



JORDAN
HESTERMANN
Entertainment
Editor

Christmas Eve is one of the biggest shopping days of the year. There are people out everywhere, cutting people off on the road, fighting over the last big toy of the season, and stressed because they can't find "the perfect gift." It's a shame since Christmas, and Hanukkah, too, are about enjoying the company of other people and showing appreciation for them. It is not about giving Great Aunt Betsie a candy dish, or getting a sweater from Grandma.

Finding gifts for someone is sometimes hard, but it shouldn't be extremely stressful if time has been taken to listen to the person being bought for. People always express what they want, it's just a matter of listening to them.

The crucial time to listen is when the person is not thinking about Christmas or Hanukkah. It is when she is talking about the beautiful earrings she saw while shopping for a gift, or when Bob says he would give anything to see a certain play. Those are the times when the best ideas are given. They are tossed right out, it's just a matter of catching them.

The worst thing to do is ask someone what he/she wants for a gift. The answer is almost always, "I don't know." Also, there is added pressure to come up with something, and most likely, they will say something they don't really want just to give an answer.

The holidays are approaching quickly, so there is not much time left. Keep your eyes and especially ears, open in order to find "the perfect gift." The idea may come at the most unusual time.

Another big tip is to not wait until the last minute to go shopping. The shopper then has the, "I don't know" attitude the receiver had. There is too much pressure at that point to pick out a gift. One of the reasons many people hate to shop is because it is time consuming. However, these are important people and they probably deserve to have some time spent on them.

Remember (this is really true) that it is "the thought that counts." A card with something really meaningful written inside may be all you can do financially, but really it is enough.

As the shopping season gets rolling, don't forget the purpose for shopping, it is for the important people in life. Stay relaxed in order to have a great time during the holidays.



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Lady Lakers continue 10 game road stretch

FRANK SPRANKLE
Sports Editor

The Lady Lakers have dropped their first three of four games on their current 10 game road trip after opening the season with four victories at home.

"The first four games gave us a lot of confidence but that was expected of us," La'Sharon Watson said.

Watson, a junior forward/guard has come through strong on defense, leading the team with 23 steals and averaging five rebounds a game. She sees this road swing as building blocks towards playing

the CCAC (Chicagoland Colligate Athletic Conference) schedule.

Picking up wins on the road was tough for the Lady Lakers a season ago, as they went 3-8 on the road last season.

The Lady Lakers suffered their first loss of the season to Cardinal Stritch Wolves on November 19, by the final of 83-51.

Still, the Lady Lakers have made an impact to start the season, finishing November with a 5-3 record. Last year, they finished November with a 2-7 record.

"We feel better, but there are six games in December on the road. Two years ago, we were on the road a lot. Next year we

will have a lot of games at home," Head Coach Dennis Smith said.

The Lady Lakers will face Moody Bible, Siena Heights, Concordia and Marian on the road to finish out the month of December.

The Lady Lakers will start 2004 at the PER Building, when they hook up with regional rival IUN Redhawks on January 8.

Leading the scoring with an average of 12.9 points per game has been senior guard/forward Kristen Brown. In her second season with the Lady Lakers, she has scored 103 points through eight games.

"There could have been times when I

could have done better, but it's challenging being on the road, but being on the road you find out how good you really are," Brown said. "It's better to play at home, considering you know the rims and are familiar on that court because you practice on it."

Both Brown and Watson have started in all eight games played through the November 25 loss to Bethel. Senior guard/forward Sarah Bacan, sophomore forward/center Nikki Borys, and senior guard Thespena Kollintzas has also started in all eight contests in November.

Track Club Up and Runnin'

FRANK SPRANKLE
Sports Editor

While PUC's current intercollegiate athletic competition features only mens' and womens' basketball, Bobby Elliot wants to see his track and field club be an intercollegiate team in the NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics).

The PUC Track Club currently has 15 members. With their first meet slated for January 31 at Rose Holman Institute in Terre Haute, it will mark the first of 12 scheduled meets.

"12 meets is good, it should be enough to be an opener," Elliot said.

Elliot, a sophomore majoring in marketing and accounting, began organizing the track club back in March after leaving Valparaiso University.

"This is our due season, we are paying our dues. I just hope that everyone will stay here so we can become an intercollegiate team," Elliot said.

The track club held their first practice on Monday with six members participating. On

Tuesday, there was five members at practice, while only four showed up on Wednesday. While these practices were not mandatory until the end of final exam week, Elliot expects all members to attend practice after the end of final exams as the practice schedule will intensify.

The club will concentrate on getting into shape once the semester concludes. For the past week, practice has centered on running the track in the PER Building fieldhouse.

"With the meets coming up, we are going to be up against good competition," Kevin Paterson said.

Paterson, a freshman majoring in fitness management joined the track club in early September through Elliot's efforts in Rush Week.

"I think Bobby has been great getting sponsors together. If we can do well in these meets, then we can be big," Paterson said.

As a three-year All-State high jumper at Highland High School, John Barr, a freshman with an undecided major, is hoping to continue to compete in track and field.

"It's everyone's responsibility to get as many dedicated athletes as we can, if not this year is useless," Barr said.

Barr has shown interest in attending Indiana State for track and field but would consider staying at PUC if track and field becomes an intercollegiate sport.

"I want to see scouts from other schools be afraid of me and be interested. It's the only way I'm going to get out of here," Barr said.

Becoming an intercollegiate program is what this club hopes to achieve as early as next fall. Elliot hopes that the university will financially support their new club in becoming an intercollegiate sport. If not, he will look into ways during the off-season of obtaining the cash.

"Everyone here knows how to work hard and this club gets people away from the pressure of school," Elliot said.

Elliot hopes to find an outdoor facility to practice, for March will mark the beginning of outdoor meets. While nothing has been finalized as of yet, possible sites for outdoor training include Hammond Gavit High School, Hammond Clark, or Morton High School.



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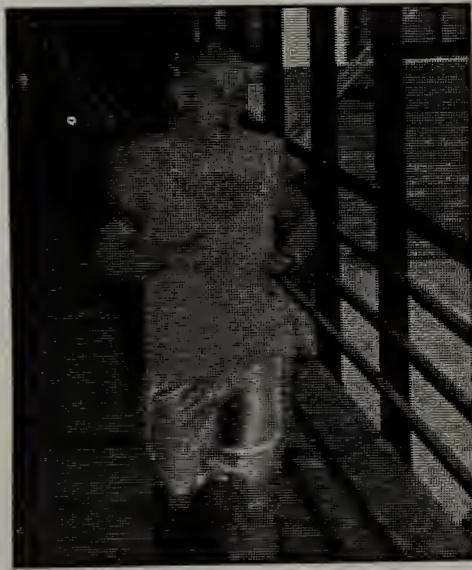


Photo by Dave Thompson

Bobby Elliot leads the pace as he seeks to run 2 laps in under 1 minute near the end of track club practice last Wednesday.



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Lady Lakers:

Thursday, Jan. 8 - I.U. Northwest
Tip-Off: 7:00 p.m.